

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 ACDA-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9558

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

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SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO KISSINGER REMARKS,
WALDHEIM REPORT

REF: ANKARA 4560

1. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE CONTINUED TO RECEIVE VERY
HEAVY ATTENTION IN THE TURKISH PRESS THURSDAY (JUNE 12).
SECGEN WALDHEIM'S REPORT TO THE UN ON CYPRUS ALSO RECEIVED
TOP FRONT-PAGE PLAY IN SEVERAL DAILIES. EDITORIAL COMMENT
WAS HEAVY.

2. HEADLINES AND COPY ON THE WALDHEIM REPORT STRESSED THE
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SECGEN'S REPORTED VIEW THAT THE CYPRUS SITUATION HAS BECOME

DANGEROUS AND THAT, AT THE LAST VIENNA MEETING, IT PROVED IMPOSSIBLE TO BREAK THE "DEADLOCK" BETWEEN THE PARTIES. STORIES NOTED THE SEC GEN'S ASSERTION THAT TURKISH FORCES ON THE ISLAND HAD RESTRICTED THE WORK OF THE UN PEACE-KEEPING FORCE AND HIS REQUEST FOR A EXTENSION OF THE UN FORCE. SOME HEADLINES HIGHLIGHTED THE CHARGE THAT TURKEY'S FORCES HAD VIOLATED THE CEASEFIRE 47 TIMES.

3. MILLIYET, WHICH HAD FAILED EARLIER TO REPORT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE, THURSDAY GAVE THE STORY BANNER HEADLINE TREATMENT AND A FULLER ACCOUNT THAN THE WIRE SERVICES COVERAGE NOTED IN THE REFTEL. THE PAPER'S HEADLINE QUOTED THE SECRETARY AS SAYING THAT, "IF THE EMBARGO IS NOT LIFTED, TURKEY WILL DO NOTHING." THE MILLIYET STORY ALSO QUOTED REP. HAMILTON AS SAYING THAT IN TERMS OF THE EMBARGO, CONCILIATORY ACTION BY TURKEY WOULD BE HELPFUL AND PERHAPS ESSENTIAL.

4. GUNADYIN'S HEADLINE DECLARED THAT,"PRESSURE IS GROWING FOR CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS." THE PAPER SAID THAT THE WALDHEIM REPORTS AND THE UPCOMING VISITS OF THE IRISH AND WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE MANIFESTATIONS OF THIS.

5. PRO-GOVERNMENT TERCUMAN'S HEADLINE DECLARED THAT IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT NO CONCESSIONS WOULD BE MADE ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE. THE STORY SAID SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD CONFIRMED THIS IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE. IN THE SAME STORY, TERCUMAN REPORTED, APPARENTLY ON THE BASIS OF A UPI STORY, "THAT AMERICAN DIPLOMATS SAID SECRETARY KISSINGER'S MOST RECENT STATEMENT COULD BE CONSIDERED TO BE AGAINST TURKEY."

6. MASS-CIRCULATION HURRIYET, IN A FRONT PAGE STORY UNDER THE HEADLINE:"KISSINGER'S STATEMENT BROUGHT SOLUTION TO AN IMPASSE." ALSO ASSERTED THAT "THE STATEMENT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER DISPLAYS A CHANGE IN ATTITUDE AGAINST TURKEY WHEN COMPARED WITH HIS FORMER POSITION."

7, EDITORIAL COMMENT KEYED ON REPORTS OF THE KISSINGER STATEMENT WAS VERY HEAVY IN THURSDAY EDITIONS. THOUGH PRES-UNCLASSIFIED

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CRPTIONS VARIED, COMMENTATORS AGREED THAT THE ARMS EMBARGO ISSUE HAD REACHED A CRITICAL JUNCTURE.

8. IN AN UNSIGNED EDITORIAL, HURRIYET DECLARED THAT KISSINGER'S WORDS HAD INDICATED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD ADOPTED THE VIEW OF CONGRESS AND THIS MAY HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF DEMIREL'S "ADMONISHING" FORD DURING THEIR MEETING IN BRUSSELS. HURRIYET SAID THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT MUST NOW

DECIDE WHETHER TO CARRY OUT ITS THREATS TO REVISE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND NATO OR TO "STOP KICKING UP A STORM AND FOLLOW IN A SOFTER LINE." IT QUESTIONED WHETHER THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO FOLLOW A SOFT LINE.

9. MILLIYET EDITOR ABDI IPEKCI, IN A FRONT PAGE COMMENTARY, ASSERTED THAT THE EMBARGO HAS BACK-FIRED AS A MEANS OF PRESSURE ON TURKEY AND THAT NO TURKISH GOVERNMENT CAN APPEAR TO MAKE CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS UNDER PRESSURE. IPEKCI DECLARED THAT CONGRESS MUST RECTIFY ITS "MISTAKE" WITHOUT DELAY LEST TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS DETERIORATE TO THE POINT OF NO RETURN.

10. YASAR AYSEV, EDITOR OF THE PRO-RPP ANKARA DAILY BARIS, SAID IN ANOTHER FRONT PAGE COMMENTARY THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS APPARENTLY CHANGED HIS ATTITUDE AND GONE ALONG WITH THE VIEWS OF CONGRESS ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE. IN THE FACE OF THIS, AYSEV SAID, "THERE IS NO SENSE IN DELAYING ANY LONGER. TURKEY MUST TAKE STEPS TO END THE ACTIVITIES OF U.S. BASES ON HER TERRITORY UNTIL THE EMBARGO IS LIFTED." IN LIGHT OF THE CHANGED SECURITY SITUATION THIS WOULD PRODUCE, AYSEV RECOMMENDED THAT TURKEY SIGN A NON-AGRESSION PACT WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

11. SENSATIONALIST, LEFT-WING GUNAYDIN IN AN UNSIGNED EDITORIAL SAID THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION ON THE QUESTION OF THE EMBARGO: "...AMERICA, WHO WAS INTENTIONALLY SAID TO BE ON OUR SIDE, HAS HARDENED HER ATTITUDE AND WANTS DEFINITE CONCESSIONS IN CYPRUS. THE GOVERNMENT CAN DO ONLY TWO THINGS. EITHER IT CAN SAY WE CANNOT BE AGAINST AMERICA, GIVE CONCESSIONS AND GET ARMS, UNCLASSIFIED

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OR IT CAN SAY NO CONCESSIONS WILL BE MADE ON CYPRUS NOR DO WE WANT YOUR WEAPONS. TAKE YOU SO-CALLED DEFENSE BASES AND GO. THIS WILL BE THE MEASURE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S 'NATIONALISM.'"

12. TERCUMAN IN AN UNSIGNED EDITORIAL NOTED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD TOLD CONGRESS TURKEY WOULD MAKE NO TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS. "THIS MULLIFIES THE UPROAR CREATED BY THE ECEVIT SUPPORTERS AGAINST THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT OVER THE CONCESSIONS THEY ALLEGEDLY WERE GOING TO MAKE," TERCUMAN SAID. BERGUS

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